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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/379,072	08/23/1999	CHIKAKO SANO	450100-02015	9838

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NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

GENCO, BRIAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/379,072

Applicant(s)

SANO, CHIKAKO

Examiner

Brian C Genco

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Applicant's amendment filed on March 4, 2004 has been fully considered by the Examiner but is not deemed persuasive.

Applicant's amendments have overcome the grounds of rejection previously presented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 6,072,936 to Koyama) in view of (USPN 6,188,804 to Weldy et al.).

In regards to claim 1 Koyama discloses an image data processing method comprising the steps of:

storing image data of a screen into memory means (column 9, lines 8-60);

reading the image data from the memory means in a unit of block consisting of a predetermined number of pixels and processing the read image data in the unit of block (e.g., the raster block converting unit; column 9, line 61 – column 10, line 26); and

when the image data is read in the unit of block consisting of the predetermined number of pixels and the read image data is short of the unit of block, compensating for a short amount thereof by adding to an end side of the image data dummy data (e.g., column 9, line 66 – column 10, line 26).

Examiner notes that Koyama does not disclose nor preclude that the dummy data is a repeated reading of the image data on that end side. Weldy et al., herein Weldy, discloses padding image edges with replicated edge values so as to enable a mathematical computation to

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extend to the edge of the image data (column 4, lines 55-58). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have made Koyama's dummy data replicated edge values since that is the usual practice as disclosed by Weldy.

In regards to claim 3 see Examiner's notes on the rejection of claim 1. Note that Koyama discloses performing a DCT on the block data to compress the image data into JPEG format. Further note that the format setting means is the setting between the low, medium, and high resolution images.

In regards to claim 5 see Examiners notes on the rejections above.

In regards to claims 6 and 7 Examiner notes that it is extremely well known in the art to provide image compression using the JPEG standard in digital cameras wherein one skilled in the art at the time of the invention would clearly recognize to place this processing technique in a camera in order to enable complete compression of image data at multiple resolutions. Official notice is taken. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have placed the image processing technique in a digital camera in order to enable complete compression of image data at multiple resolutions.

Claims 2, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 6,072,936 to Koyama) in view of (USPN 6,188,804 to Weldy et al.) in view of (USPN 5,369,447 to Soloff).

In regards to claim 2 neither Koyama nor Weldy discloses that when the short amount of the image data is an amount of a plurality of pixels, the short amount thereof is compensated for by repeatedly adding image data on each of both end sides of the image only the number of times

which is almost the same with respect to each other. Soloff discloses the known technique of extending image data called end extension as shown in Fig. 2 wherein this reduces edge distortion (column 2, lines 37-42). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have added image data on each of both end sides of the image only the number of times which is almost the same with respect to each other in order to reduce edge distortion.

In regards to claim 4 see Examiner's notes on the rejection of claims 2 and 3.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian C. Genco who can be reached by phone at 703-305-7881 or by fax at 703-746-8325. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8:30am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on 703-308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is 703-308-4357.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brian C Genco
Examiner
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March 18, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Christensen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ANDREW CHRISTENSEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600